

U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program 2004 Requests for Initial Proposals

Overview

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, is soliciting grant and cooperative agreement initial proposals for projects in the California/Baja California and Arizona/Sonora Regional Workgroup regions that address the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program. The U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program is a binational collaborative effort whose mission is to protect the environment and public health in the U.S.-Mexico border region (100 kilometers either side of the U.S.-Mexico border) consistent with the principles of sustainable development. (For more information on the Border 2012 Program please visit our Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>.) This is an initial solicitation. Grants will be awarded under the following authorities:

- Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3),
- Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3)
- Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001(a)
- Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)
- Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Section 311(a)
- National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20 (as amended)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 66.931

Important Dates:

January 14, 2005	Electronic and hard copy initial proposals must be received by EPA.
May 1, 2005	Initial approvals identified and sponsors of projects selected for potential funding will be requested to submit a formal application package. Schedule may be modified based on the level of response.
June 1, 2005	Grant application and work plan must be submitted to EPA.
September 1, 2005	Awards made

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U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program: 2004 Requests for Proposals

Full Text Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

With the active participation of the ten U.S.-Mexico border states and U.S. tribal governments, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Mexican Secretariat of Health and other federal agencies have developed the Border 2012 program to protect the environment and the public's health in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

The ten-year Border 2012 program emphasizes a bottom-up, regional approach, anticipating that local decision-making, priority-setting, and project implementation will best address environmental issues in the border region. The program brings together a wide variety of stakeholders to produce prioritized and sustained actions that consider the environmental needs of the different border communities.

The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding for projects which will further the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program. The Border 2012 goals and objectives are listed below.

- **Goal #1: Reduce Water Contamination**

- Objective #1: By 2012, promote a 25 percent increase in the number of homes connected to potable water supply and wastewater collection and treatment systems.
- Objective #2: By 2012, assess significant shared and transboundary surface waters and achieve a majority of water quality standards currently being exceeded in those waters.
- Objective #3: By 2006, implement a monitoring system for evaluating coastal water quality at the international border beaches. By the end of 2006, establish a 2012 objective toward meeting coastal water quality standards of both countries.
- Objective #4: By 2005, promote the assessment of water system conditions in 10 percent of the existing water systems in the border cities to identify opportunities for improvement in overall water system efficiencies.

- **Goal #2: Reduce Air Pollution**

- Objective #1: By 2012 or sooner, reduce air emissions as much as possible toward attainment of respective national ambient air quality standards, and reduce exposure in the border region, as supported by the following interim objectives
- Interim Objective #1: By 2003, define baseline and alternative scenarios for emissions reductions along the border, and their impacts on air quality.
- Interim Objective #2: By 2004, based on results from interim objective 1, define specific emission reductions strategies and air quality and exposure objectives to be achieved by 2012.

- **Goal #3: Land Contamination**

- Objective #1: By 2004, identify needs and develop an action plan to improve institutional and infrastructure capacity for waste management and pollution prevention as they pertain to hazardous and solid waste and toxic substances along the U.S.-Mexico border. Starting in 2005, the plan will be implemented and concluded by 2012
- Objective #2: By 2004, evaluate the hazardous waste tracking systems in the United States and

- Mexico. During the year 2006, develop and consolidate the link between both tracking systems.
 - Objective #3: By 2010, clean up three of the largest sites that contain abandoned waste tires in the U.S.-Mexico border region, based on policies and programs developed in partnership with local governments.
 - Objective #4: By 2004, develop a binational policy of clean-up and restoration resulting in the productive use of abandoned sites contaminated with hazardous waste or materials, along the length of the border, in accordance with the laws of each country. By 2006, apply this policy at least once in each of the four geographic regions.
- **Goal #4: Improve Environmental Health**
 - Objective #1-Air: By 2006, evaluate various measures of respiratory health in children that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve air quality in border communities.
 - Objective #2-Water: By 2006, evaluate various measures of gastrointestinal illness that might be tracked to assess changes that may result from actions to improve water quality in border communities.
 - Objective #3A-Pesticides: By 2006, an assessment and pilot program will be completed that explores the feasibility of harmonizing a binational system for reporting acute pesticide poisonings.
 - Objective #3B-Pesticides: By 2007, reduce pesticide exposure by training 36,000 farm workers on pesticide risks and safe handling, including ways to minimize exposure for families and children.
 - Objective #4A-Capacity Building: By 2006, establish a “distance-learning”, post-graduate degree program to support advanced training on environmental health in conjunction with Pan American Health Organization regional offices and academic institutions.
 - Objective #4B-Capacity Building: By 2004, extend current efforts in binational environmental health training for 100 health care providers each for pesticides and water.
- **Goal #5: Reduce Exposure to Chemicals as a Result of Accidental Chemical Releases and/or Acts of Terrorism**
 - Objective #1: By 2004, a chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the United States will be clearly established.
 - Objective #2: By 2008, joint contingency plans for all 14 pairs of sister cities will be in place and operating (including exercise), with the establishment of binational committees for chemical emergency prevention (or similar border forums).
 - Objective #3: By 2012, 50 percent of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction, and counter-terrorism.
- **Goal #6: Improve Environmental Performance Through Compliance, Enforcement, Pollution Prevention, and Promotion of Environmental Stewardship**
 - Objective #1: By 2006, increase by 50 percent the number of industries along the U.S.-Mexico border implementing voluntary compliance and/or self-audits (such as the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) or participation in voluntary assessment programs), using 2003 as a baseline year.
 - Objective #2: By 2006, determine the pollution sources in the border area that present high risks to human health and the environment that are subject to regulation and set priorities for actions to lower the risk.
 - Objective #3: By 2012, increase compliance in the priority areas determined in Objective 2 by assisting and responding to citizen complaints, compliance assistance, compliance incentives, compliance monitoring, and enforcement to reduce the risks from non-compliant facilities and encourage voluntary pollution prevention.

More information about the objectives of the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program can be found at our website at <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>. **Initial proposals must address at least one of the goals listed above.**

The EPA is especially interested in receiving initial proposals that address one or more of the priority areas listed below. Such initial proposals will receive greater weight in the evaluation of the grants. Priority areas are listed by U.S-Mexico states.

PRIORITY AREAS

- **ARIZONA/SONORA —Priority Areas**

- **Water**

- Identification of database gaps, especially in establishing baseline data on water quality and quantity in the watersheds.
- Promotion of the development of a binational water quality and quantity database.
- Promotion of sustainable management of water in the regional watersheds and facilitate the efficient use of alternative supplies (graywater, effluent, rainwater harvesting, etc.), using binational data.
- Development of environmental education programs, especially about water pollution prevention, safe reuse of graywater, and reuse and recharge of treated effluent.
- Assistance to low income communities with the development of low cost potable water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure. Priority would be given to projects which assist self-help efforts
- Priority will be given to projects which assist in the management and protection of cross boundary aquifers and watersheds.

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response**

- Training and practice on the use of personal protective equipment for Mexican first responders.
- Training for emergency responders
- Updating of Arizona/Sonora Sister City Plans
- Exercises to test and improve the Sister City Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
- Emergency response, video and computer equipment for training

- **Hazardous and Solid Waste**

- Conduct field demonstrations to develop capacity for road paving, embankment, and other waste tire reuse applications through participation with industrial and government organizations.
- Evaluate markets for used oil and conduct a demonstration project to encourage development of sustainable markets.
- Develop retail and manufacturing sector programs to conduct outreach and establish electronics recycling centers.
- Encourage environmental stewardship through community outreach and implementation of community organized solid waste cleanup and recycling events that can be held at least annually.
- Improve pollution prevention practices associated with manufacturing processes, resulting in a reduction in hazardous waste streams, including solvents, metals, paints, and other industrial waste streams.
- Develop an inventory of number and location of waste-producing industries located at the border, and identify the nature and quantity of waste streams generated by these industries to assist communities and government address planning and compliance matters related to waste.

- **Air Quality**

- Projects reducing emission impacts of PM-10

- **Environmental Health**

Of special interest are projects addressing gastrointestinal illnesses, body burden and health effects related to pesticide exposure, including:

- Projects that augment on-going environmental health research related to individuals and populations in a border community
- Projects that employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases to demonstrate linkages between environmental quality and health conditions in the border region
- Projects that evaluate availability/quality of existing environmental and related health data bases in the border and identify data gaps. The latter would include human exposure/biomonitoring data bases
- Retrospective epidemiological studies
- Prospective epidemiological studies

- **Community Based Projects**

Projects that assess and reduce environmental and human health risks in communities experiencing increased risks (sensitive populations, areas of high pollution levels). Specific characteristics of such projects include the following:

- community-based stakeholder group, including EPA, state, local or tribal government agencies (as appropriate) as partners, that uses collaborative processes to achieve results
- Community capacity building
- Opportunities for leveraging other sources of funding
- Focus on action over monitoring,
- Strategic plan to sustain the collaboration and continue risk reduction activities
- Mechanisms to share lessons learned including reporting results to EPA.

- **CALIFORNIA/BAJA CALIFORNIA—Priority Areas**

- **Environmental Education**

- The design and implementation of field trip-based or hands-on programs, or educational programs which incorporate field trips or hands-on learning, for kids and young adults that integrate environmental health issues, water quality issues and/or pollution prevention techniques.
- Capacity building trainings and/or workshops for teachers and educators on effectively using field trips or hands-on programs for learning, and which also focus on key border environmental issues such as environmental health, water quality and/or pollution prevention.
- Binational campaign educating the public on the links between environmental health issues and pollution prevention and water quality, and what steps they can do to protect themselves and the environment

- **Water Quality--San Diego/Tijuana**

- Development of a binational water quality monitoring system
- Expansion of water re-use program
- Development and implementation of point and non-point pollution prevention programs;
- Mechanisms for transboundary watershed management;
- Evaluation and protection of ground water aquifers

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response—San Diego/Tijuana**

- Training and practice on the use of personal protective equipment for Mexican first responders

- Exercises to test and improve the Sister City Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
- Training for emergency responders
- Emergency response, video and computer equipment for training purpose for the future
- **Emergency Preparedness and Response—Imperial County/Mexicali**
 - Exercises to test and improve the Sister City Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans
 - Training for emergency responders
 - Emergency response, video and computer equipment for training
 - Training and practice on the use of personal protective equipment for Mexican first responders.
- **Air Quality—Imperial County/Mexicali**
 - Projects reducing emission impacts of PM-10 and ozone
- **Air Quality—San Diego/Tijuana**
 - Projects reducing emission impacts of PM-2.5 and ozone
- **Hazardous and Solid Waste**
 - Conduct field demonstrations to develop capacity for road paving, embankment, and other waste tire reuse applications through participation with industrial and government organizations.
 - Evaluate markets for used oil and conduct a demonstration project to encourage development of sustainable markets.
 - Develop retail and manufacturing sector programs to conduct outreach and establish electronics recycling centers.
 - Encourage environmental stewardship through community outreach and implementation of community organized solid waste cleanup and recycling events that can be held at least annually.
 - Improve pollution prevention practices associated with manufacturing processes, resulting in a reduction in hazardous waste streams, including solvents, metals, paints, and other industrial waste streams.
 - Develop an inventory of number and location of waste-producing industries located at the border, and identify the nature and quantity of waste streams generated by these industries to assist communities and government address planning and compliance matters related to waste.
- **Environmental Health**

Of special interest are projects addressing gastrointestinal illnesses, body burden and health effects related to pesticide exposure, including:

- Projects that augment on-going environmental health research related to individuals and populations in a border community
- Projects that employ and/or supplement existing data/data bases to demonstrate linkages between environmental quality and health conditions in the border region
- Projects that evaluate availability/quality of existing environmental and related health data bases in the border and identify data gaps. The latter would include human exposure/biomonitoring data bases
- Retrospective epidemiological studies
- Prospective epidemiological studies
- **Community Based Projects**

Projects that assess and reduce environmental and human health risks in communities experiencing increased risks (sensitive populations, areas of high pollution levels). Specific characteristics of such projects include the following:

- community-based stakeholder group, including EPA, state, local or tribal government agencies (as appropriate) as partners, that uses collaborative processes to achieve results
- Community capacity building
- Opportunities for leveraging other sources of funding
- Focus on action over monitoring,
- Strategic plan to sustain the collaboration and continue risk reduction activities
- Mechanisms to share lessons learned including reporting results to EPA

Projects that address the above will receive greater weight in the evaluation process (see V. Initial Proposal Review Information below).

EPA will be awarding grants in this solicitation using the following statutory authorities:

- Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3): conduct and promote research investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water pollution.
- Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3): develop, expand, or carry out a program (that may combine training, education, and employment) for occupations relating to the public health aspects of providing safe drinking water.
- Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001(a): conduct and promote the coordination of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, public education programs and studies relating to solid waste.
- Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3): conduct and promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, and control of air pollution.
- Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a): conduct research, development of monitoring activities on toxic substances.
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Section 311(a): conduct basic research and training related to the detection, assessment, and evaluation of the risks and human effects of exposure to hazardous substances.
- National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102 (f): where consistent with the foreign policy of the United States, lend appropriate support to initiatives, resolutions, and programs designed to maximize international cooperation in anticipating and preventing a decline in the quality of mankind's world environment;
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20 (as amended): research by grant or contract with other Federal agencies, universities, or others.

II. Award Information

EPA Region 9 intends to award an estimated \$610,000 to eligible applicants through assistance agreements ranging in size up to \$100,000. Individual awards will not exceed two tiers of funding: Tier 1 - Up to \$30,000 and Tier 2 – between \$30,001-\$100,000. We anticipate that a limited number of Tier 2 projects will be funded. Multi-year (2-3 year) Tier 1 and Tier 2 proposals will be accepted. From the initial proposals received, EPA estimates that approximately 15-18 initial proposals may be selected to submit full applications.

At least one environmental education grant or cooperative agreement will be awarded in the California/Baja California region; and at least one environmental education grant or cooperative agreement will be awarded in the Arizona/Sonora region.

At least two air quality grants or cooperative agreements will be awarded.

Awarding of proposals related to environmental health and community-based projects are dependent on availability

of funds.

For cooperative agreements, EPA expects to have substantial involvement in the implementation of the agreement. This includes routine communication with the applicant and input into major decision made during the period of the cooperative agreement.

III. Eligibility Information

Organizations that are eligible to apply are limited to those located in the United States border region (100km north of the U.S.-Mexico border) and that are any of the following:

- border state governments
- multistate/tribal organizations,
- colleges and universities,
- local governments, and
- non-governmental organizations
- international organizations (in the border region of either the United States or Mexico)

These entities are strongly encouraged to partner with relevant Mexican border organizations.

Organizations may submit multiple proposals. Applicants must demonstrate that a proposed project can commence within a 3-6 months of award.

All initial proposals must be submitted in both English and Spanish to facilitate binational review. All initial proposals received in only one language will not be considered, unless a declaration is made that submitting the initial proposal in both Spanish and English would cause a financial burden.

All initial proposals (Spanish and English) must be e-mailed to EPA Region 9 (r9bordergrants@epa.gov) AND a hard copy must be mailed to EPA's San Diego Border Office. If there is a substantive difference between the English initial proposal and the Spanish initial proposal, EPA will assume the English initial proposal is correct.

The initial proposal must specify that there will be at least a five per cent match for grants/cooperative agreements, including in-kind contributions. Funding from other federal grants may not be used to meet this match requirement.

Recipients can be reimbursed for pre-award costs provided that the costs are included in the application and the costs meet the definition of pre-award costs. Recipients incur pre-award costs at their own risk.

Ineligible costs are outlined in 40 CFR Parts 30 & 31, including construction and in OMB Circulars A-21 (Educational Institutions), A-87 (Governments), and A-122 (Non-profit Organizations)

Eligibility Criteria

- Initial proposals must be from an eligible organization.
- Initial Proposals must address a bi-national or transboundary issue and meet the goals and objectives of Border 2012.
- Initial proposals must be submitted on time.
- Projects must be able to start within 3-6 months of award.

IV. Initial Proposal Submission Information

Initial proposals must be limited to three pages. Full application packages will not be considered. It is recommended that confidential information not be included in the initial proposal. Please note that research is ineligible for funding as well as other ineligible costs outlined in 40 CFR Parts 30 and 31.

The following format should be used for all Initial Proposals:

1. Applicant's name, primary contacts, address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail (if available).
2. Project Title
3. Background information about lead organization, and other participants/partners.
4. Summary of the project.
5. Project goals and objectives:
 - What you will achieve?
 - What environmental or human health issue will be addressed?
 - What the project impact will be?
 - Whom the project will benefit?
6. Project Results
 - What will the results of the project?
 - How will the results be measured?
7. Description of tasks to implement project
8. Project time-line (provide an overall schedule, lasting no more than 18 months).
9. Estimated project budget (show estimates for personnel, travel, supplies, etc.), including breakout of EPA funding, cost share, and any other sources of funding.

Please send two English copies and two Spanish copies of the Initial Proposals to:

Dave Fege
San Diego Border Office
U.S. EPA Region 9
610 West Ash St., Suite 905
San Diego, CA 92101

Initial Proposals must be post-marked by January 14, 2005

AND

Please email one English copy and one Spanish copy of the Initial Proposal to: r9bordergrants@epa.gov. **E-mailed Initial Proposals must be received by January 14, 2005.**

Only initial proposals which have been received by e-mail and by mail will be considered.

For additional information, please contact Dave Fege at 619-235-4769 or email at fege.dave@epa.gov

V. Initial Proposal Review Information

EPA Region 9 will award U.S.-Mexico Border grants on a competitive basis/and will evaluate initial proposals based on the following criteria:

A. Project Description (15 points)

- Does the proposal incorporate the use of Border 2012 tools? (See <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/intro.htm#tools> for list of Border 2012 tools)
- Does the proposal present a clear description of priority environmental problems or issues to be addressed?
- Does the proposal address a binational/transboundary environmental issue?
- Are the goals and tasks clear and concise? Are the tasks, budget, time line etc. realistic?
- Does the applicant demonstrate that the proposed project can commence within 3-6 months?
- Does the proposal include a Mexican partner?
- Does the proposal include sharing progress with the relevant task force(s) and Regional Work

Group(s)

- Does the proposal include a well-conceived strategy to achieve those goals and objectives?
- Are project participants well qualified to conduct the proposed project and have a demonstrated record of success in their previous work in the border region and/or related areas?

B. Project Objective/Goals (40 points)

- How well does the proposal contribute to achieving one or more of the objectives listed in the Border 2012 framework?
- Does the proposal specify realistic goals and objectives that deal with the environmental problems or issues identified?
- Does it address more than one specific objective?
- Does the project address any of the priority areas listed in Section I of this announcement?

C. Project Benefits (25 points)

- Does the project take a creative, innovative approach and/or implement successful models from other areas?
- Does the proposal identify synergy and/or coordination with ongoing efforts conducted by local, state, federal agencies, Border 2012 task force(s), Border 2012 Workgroup(s) and (or other organizations) on the border?
- Does the project's scope and budget make effective and judicious use of the requested federal grant funds? Does it leverage other public or private resources, including in-kind contributions?
- Will the project deliverables be transferable or useful to others?

D. Measurability of Project Results (20 points)

- Can the project results be clearly identified?
- Does the project contain clear measures of environmental improvement?
- Measures of success should be either measures of environmental improvement, or should be directly linked to such measures. EPA will look for quantitative and qualitative measurability in the following areas:
 - Will the project lead to measurable environmental improvements?
 - How/when will measurable products and results be available?
 - How does the project impact public perception and behavior to achieve beneficial environmental results?

The initial proposals will be evaluated by EPA staff and by Regional Workgroup Co-chairs for Arizona/Sonora and California/Baja California. Final selection will be made by the Deputy Regional Administrator, EPA Region 9. Selected organizations will be notified and requested to submit a full application. The projects selected will reflect geographic distribution between the Arizona/Sonora and the California/Baja California border regions and between the several media (air, water, waste, enforcement, emergency response, and environmental education).

VI. Award Administration

Initial proposals that are selected for continuance in the process will be sent an application kit for funding. These recipients will be invited to submit a detailed work plan and the completed application for funding. Receipt of an application kit is not a guarantee of funding. Deadlines must be met and the work plan must be approved by the EPA Project Officer for funding to occur.

Regulations governing the award and administration of Water Quality Cooperative Agreements: 40 CFR part 30 (for institutions of higher learning, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations) and 40 CFR part (for States, local governments, and interstate agencies).

Project Status Reports and Financial Status Reports will be required. Project Status Reports should describe project activities and provide the EPA Project Officer with information about project development. The Financial Status Report must accurately account for all federal funds expended and identify appropriate use of federal funds.

Grantee must share information of their progress at appropriate Border 2012 Task Force meetings and at appropriate Border 2012 Regional Workgroup meetings.

Disputes: Procedures at 40 CFR 30.63 and 40 CFR 31.70 will apply.

Confidentiality: Applicants must clearly mark information they consider confidential and EPA will make confidentiality decisions in accordance with Agency Regulations at 40 CFR, Part 2, Subpart B.

EPA Reserves the right to reject all proposals and to not make any awards.

VII. Agency Contact

For additional information, please contact

Dave Fege
Phone: 619-235-4769
Fax: 619-235-4771
Email: fege.dave@epa.gov

VII. Other Information

Previous Border Grant Program:

This grant program is an on-going program with the latest solicitation occurring in September 2003. A summary of grants selected for that program are listed below in Table 1.

Table 1
Region 9 Border Grants Award in 2004

GRANTEE	GRANT TITLE
Arizona State University	Binational Process for Recycling Used Oil Generated in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico to Stop Current Used Oil Dumping Practices
County of Santa Cruz	Pilot-Scale Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program for Maquiladora Employees in Nogales, Sonora
University of Arizona	Ambos Nogales Soil Stabilization Through Vegetation
Tohono Oo'dham Nation	Quito Vac Potable Water System Improvement
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	Public Education Project Aimed at Reducing Children's Exposures to Environmental Contaminants
Arizona Governor's Office of Homeland Security	Operation Respond Emergency Information System Workshop
Fry Fire District/Cochise County Hazardous Materials Response Team	Tank Car Specialist Training
Environmental Education Exchange	Coordinate Environmental Education and Border 2012 Task Force Efforts (Cross border Collaborators Projects)
Nogales Fire Department	Ambos Nogales Emergency Response Plan Update
County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health	Establishment of a Green Business Pilot Program for the Automotive Industry in Tijuana, Mexico
International Community Foundation	Demonstrating Improvements in Erosion Control and Storm Water Management in Los Laureles Canyon and the Tijuana River National Estuarine research Reserve
County of San Diego Department of Agriculture	Emergency Response Responder Training
American Lung Association	Public Education Program for Clean Air in Imperial/Mexicali
San Diego State University--Imperial Valley	Review of Current Programs and Strategies for Air Quality Improvement in the Imperial-Mexicali Valley
Pro Peninsula	Exploration of Using Environmental Education in the Scope of Task Force Projects

Border 2012 Task Forces in the California/Baja California and Arizona/Sonora Regions

Prospective applicants are encouraged to attend Border 2012 Task Force Meetings. Meetings are posted at least 30 days in advance on our website at <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>.

Task Force meetings that are already scheduled during the next 90 days are following

- Tijuana River Watershed Task Force Meeting, November 4, 2004, Tijuana
- Imperial County-Mexicali Air Quality Task Force Meeting, November 9, 2004, Calexico
- California-Baja California Environmental Education Task Force Meeting, November 18, 2004, San Diego
- California-Baja California Hazardous Waste Task Force Meeting, November 17, Tijuana

For more information about time and location of these and other Task Force meetings, please go to EPA's U.S.-

Mexico Border Website (<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>).

Applicable Regulations

Applicable Regulations and Circulars

States and local governments: 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 31
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/40cfr31_02.html

Tribal Governments will follow Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-87
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a087/a087-all.html>

Institutions of Higher Education and Non-Profits: 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 30
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/40cfr30_02.html

Confidentiality

Applicants must clearly mark information they consider confidential and EPA will make final confidentiality decisions in accordance with Agency Regulations at 40 CFR. Part 2, Subpart B

Use Restrictions

Assistance will be targeted to applicants that have demonstrated capability to successfully carry out Federal grant programs.

Web Resources

A complete description of the U.S. Mexico Border 2012 Program can be found at
<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>

EPA Obligations

EPA is not obligated to make any award as a result of this announcement. EPA is not obligated to make awards for the amount of indicated funding.

Measurement of Environmental Results

Why Measure?

Measurement determines if a project is achieving program results and ensures resources are being used wisely. Measurement shows the effects of your project on your community and the environment. Congress requires EPA to provide detailed information on environmental results attributable to EPA programs and grants. EPA has identified three types of measures to gauge the success of a project. These measures include activities, outcomes, and impacts. Competitive proposals may address measurement results through all three types of measurement.

How do I Measure the Right Thing?

The key to measurement is that measurements only have meaning in relation to the question(s) they seek to answer. It is vital to have a clear picture of the objectives and goals of the project before any measurement activity takes place. Ask yourself a few key questions when determining what to measure:

- What are the specific issues to be addressed through this project?
- What do I already know about these issues?
- How will I know if I have achieved my goals?
- How will I know if my program is having an impact?

Once you answer these types of questions, you are ready to determine how to gather your data.

How and What do I Measure?

Activities (or Output Measures): Output measures include important activities, work products, or actions taken during the project. Examples include:

- Number of increased connections to wastewater collection and treatment systems
- Number and locations of waters assessed
- Numbers of farm workers trained on pesticide risks and safe handling

Outcomes (or Outcome Measures): Outcomes include the things that changed or were modified as a result of your activities. Examples include:

- Improved tracking of hazardous wastes
- Increase in number of industries adopting/implementing EMS
- Clearly established chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism
- Emission reduction strategies developed

Impacts (or environmental and public health indicators): Impacts are measures of specific environmental and human health improvements in a defined area. These indicators help measure what impacts the project is having on environmental problems in your project area. Some examples include:

- Amount of solid waste reduced
- Amount of scrap tires diverted for re-use/recycling (and valuation as a commodity)
- Amount of improvement in public water systems

Ideally, these metrics can be extended to their corresponding environmental results (air pollution reduced, CO₂ reduced, etc.). There are common multipliers available or you can create your own from data specific to your project.

When do I Measure?

Measurement is most helpful at key stages of a project's life span: project planning, project implementation, and project completion.

Planning stage: Baseline information is gathered, objectives are established, and the audience of the project is characterized.

Implementation stage: Progress is tracked to determine if mid-course correction of the project is necessary. Milestones are examined.

Completion stage: Determine if goals were achieved, what worked well, next steps, and future modifications.

Why do I need to Gather baseline data?

Without gathering preliminary data on current conditions, it is impossible to see any distinct change or to determine if any results were made specifically as a result of the project. Baseline data describes the existing situation, provides relevance to the data you collect, and allows comparisons to be done before and after a project to determine its successes and failures.

What will this cost?

Generally, between 5% - 15% of your total budget should be allocated to pay for measurement. These costs should not be included as a line item in your budget projections but should be reflected in your work plan.